

Appl. No. : 09/283,120
Filed : March 31, 1999

On page 16, lines 24-27, please replace "the application number 09/231,049 and the filing date of January 14, 1999" with --the serial number 09/231,409, filed January 14, 1999, and now U.S. patent 6,282,517--.

On page 22, lines 11-15, please replace "the application number 09/231,049 and the filing date of January 14, 1999" with --the serial number 09/231,409, filed January 14, 1999, and now U.S. patent 6,282,517--.

Clean version of the Specification

After the foregoing changes have been made, the changed portions of the specification will appear as follows:

Paragraph in the Specification beginning on page 1, line 3:

The present application is related to the co-pending and commonly owned U.S. Patent application entitled REAL TIME COMMUNICATION OF PURCHASE REQUESTS having the serial number 09/231,409, filed January 14, 1999, and now U.S. patent 6,282,517, and which is hereby incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

Paragraph in the Specification beginning on page 16, line 15:

B.1 At a step 204, the seller submits a vehicle to be auctioned off by the auction center 106. Each vehicle comprises a unique vehicle auction. In one embodiment, the seller can submit vehicles to the auction center 106 one vehicle at a time. Each vehicle can be identified by a set of product data stored in memory which is associated with the vehicle. The product data may advantageously be comprised of a vehicle identification and one or more seller parameters. A product receive module is configured to execute in the auction center 106 and received the product data associated with the vehicle. In another embodiment, the seller may also submit one or more sets of product data into the auction center 106 from a database. As an example, the product data may be contained in a database of the type detailed in the co-pending and commonly owned U.S. Patent application entitled REAL TIME COMMUNICATION OF PURCHASE REQUESTS having the serial number 09/231,409, filed January 14, 1999, and now U.S. patent 6,282,517, and which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. In particular, the database can be comprised of one or more used vehicle records detailed in the aforementioned

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patent application. Those of ordinary skill in the art will realize that the database may be local to the online product auction system 104 or remotely located, and thus, connected to the online product auction system 104 via the network 102.

Paragraph in the Specification beginning on page 22, line 9:

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In one embodiment, a vehicle auction becomes visible to, and accessible by, potential bidders through the online product auction system 104 upon transitioning from a review state to a preview state. In one embodiment, the potential bidders are the vehicle dealers having access to the Data Center system detailed in the co-pending and commonly owned U.S. Patent application entitled REAL TIME COMMUNICATION OF PURCHASE REQUESTS having the serial number 09/231,409, filed January 14, 1999, and now U.S. patent 6,282,517, and which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Upon transitioning into the preview state, the vehicle auction advantageously remains in the preview state for six (6) twenty-four (24) hour periods. The auction center 106 is advantageously configured to not accept seller modifications to the product data or the seller parameters associated with a vehicle auction that is beyond the review state. Moreover, the seller may advantageously not be permitted to remove a vehicle auction that is beyond the review state from the online product auction system 104. In another embodiment, the auction center 106 may permit the seller to modify seller parameters in order to request seller proxies even if the vehicle auction is beyond the review state.
